

Cool Tools for the Kindergarten Classroom

Technology Integration

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Why Technology?

Developmentally appropriate software and computer applications engage children in creative play, mastery learning, problem solving and conversation. When used appropriately, technology can support and extend traditional materials in valuable ways. As part of a teacher's overall classroom plan, technology should be used in ways that support guiding philosophies, values, schedules, themes and activities rather than distort or replace them. Research points to the positive effects of technology use on cognitive and social learning and development (Clements, Haugland, and Shade, 1994).

Technology Continuum

- Place yourself along the continuum of technology experience/comfort level.
- Are you a Penguin, Emu or Road Runner when it comes to using technology?

Smart board

- Smart Notebook 10
- PE in the classroom!
- Handwriting
- Math
- Literacy
- The possibilities are endless!

United Streaming

- Embed video to enhance your lessons.
- United Streaming requires a school subscription and password to access content.
- 30-day trials are available at the united streaming website.

iPod and iTalk

- Digital recording of stories
- Record students for progress in fluency and other early literacy skills
- Document Dibels testing progress
- Burn content to CD to share with parents.

Flip Video

- Small and easy to use!
- Inexpensive
- New models offer USB charging rather than batteries
- Easy uploads
- No additional software required...just “plug and play!”
- Web-based storage option for sharing content with others.

Interactive Websites

- <http://www.starfall.com>
- <http://www.rainforestmaths.com>
- <http://www.crickweb.co.uk/Early-Years.html>